

LB640

February 11, 1974

SENATOR NORE: Have you looked over 592 and noticed that there's no opportunity for a write in. It's over on Final Reading now. Ready for Final Reading.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore. I wish you would ask the question personally, and not take up the time here because we are trying to move to General File and there's a bill here that we are trying to dispatch and if you don't mind I'd rather that you would carry on a personal conversation. All right. If there isn't anything else on the desk then we can move back. And Senator Hasebroock, we would like to move back to finishing up perhaps if possible, concluding your LB640 where we left it hanging in limbo the other day when we adjourned and, let's have the Clerk review for us where we are in amendments and so forth.

CLERK: Mr. President LB640 was considered on February 8, the title was read the amendments were adopted, there was a motion pending to advance the bill. This is a bill (Read bill)

PRESIDENT: Alright let's see if we can get the attention of the body now, Senator Hasebroock is about to close on his motion to advance LB640. And I am wondering if there is anyone else who wants to be heard now on LB640. Well I suppose that we really shouldn't close Senator Hasebroock because you may say something here that may open this up. We had better go back a little further and come forward so go ahead with some comments there that you had.

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. This would be my closing statement, I think that we have heard a lot of arguments pro and con and I would like to just close briefly on the bill. I would like to point out that number 1, the fact that the state tax commission office did not oppose the bill as amended, and number 2 that Omaha Public Power District, Nebraska Public Power District and some cities will be building over 500 million dollars worth of new generation plants over the next ten years and will be paying sales tax on all this equipment as it is purchased and installed. This sales tax revenue will make up ten times over any erosion of the tax base caused by this bill which will apply only to air pollution control equipment and is a relatively small part of the cost of new plant construction. LB640 is primarily a rate payers bill rather than a Power District bill. Power Districts will continue to pay full sales tax on materials used in day to day operations. Trucks, wire transformers, poles etc. 2 1/2% each month on their light bills. Any application of LB640 to private industry will be very minor as compared to the power districts and the municipal electric systems. The bulk of total dollars spent on air pollution control equipment over the next ten years will be by power districts and cities on generation plants. Again, if sales tax is paid by the power districts for air clean up equipment, this must be factored into the rates. And all Nebraskans already pay sales tax on their electric bills each month. I think this briefly tells you what the bill is all about and I move that it be advanced to E & R initial.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore?

SENATOR NORE: I would like to ask Senator Hasebroock a question if he would yield?

PRESIDENT: Alright Senator Hasebroock, would you yield to a question?